

Fish and Wildlife Service NEPA Reference Handbook

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION



Purpose of Handbook



Glossary, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

RELATED LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITIES



National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended



Section 309 of the Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended



Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended

RELATED EXECUTIVE ORDERS



**Executive Order 12114,
Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions, January 4, 1979**



**Executive Order 11988,
Floodplain Management, May 24, 1977**



**Executive Order 11990,
Protection of Wetlands, May 24, 1977**



**Executive Order 12898,
Environmental Justice, February 11, 1994**

CEQ NEPA REGULATIONS

PRESS Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1500-1508, July 1, 1986)

CEQ NEPA GUIDANCE

PRESS Council on Environmental Quality's Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations (46 FR 18026, March 23, 1981)

PRESS Council on Environmental Quality's Guidance Regarding NEPA Regulations (48 FR 34236, July 28, 1983)

PRESS Council on Environmental Quality's Designation of Non-Federal Agencies to be Cooperating Agencies in Implementing the Procedural Requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1508.5, July 28, 1999)

PRESS Council on Environmental Quality's Cooperating Agencies in Implementing the Procedural Requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, January 30, 2002

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NEPA PROCEDURES AND GUIDANCE

PRESS Department of the Interior National Environmental Policy Act Procedures (516 DM 1-7)

PRESS "Procedures for Approving and Filing Environmental Impact Statements," Department of the Interior, Environmental Statement Memorandum ESM98-2

PRESS "EIS Filing Address Information for EPA," Department of the Interior, Environmental Statement Memorandum ESM00-2

PRESS Handbook on Departmental Review of Section 4(f) Evaluations, February 2002

PRESS "Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act," Department of the Interior, Environmental Review Memorandum ERM94-4

PRESS "Interventions in Proceedings of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)," Department of the Interior, Environmental Review Memorandum ERM99-2

PRESS "Departmental Participation in Hydroelectric Power Licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)," Department of the Interior, Environmental Review Memorandum ERM00-2

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE NEPA GUIDANCE

PRESS Service Memorandum from Deputy Director to the Service Directorate regarding "The Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Environmental Policy Act," April 6, 1993

PRESS Documenting and Implementing Decisions, Fish and Wildlife Service Manual (550 FW 3)

PRESS Service NEPA Procedures in Departmental Manual (516 DM6 Appendix 1) published in the Federal Register Vol. 62, No. 11, January 16, 1997

PRESS Interagency Coordination, Environmental Responsibilities, Fish and Wildlife Service Manual (505 FW 1-5)

PRESS National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Checklist, Director's Order No. 127, and Amendment 1, September 28, 2001

PRESS "Proposed" National Environmental Policy Act – Policy and Responsibilities (550 FW 1) and Compliance Guidance (550 FW 2)

CHECKLISTS FOR PREPARING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

PRESS

Checklist for the Contents of a Record of Decision (ROD)

PRESS

Checklist for the Contents of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

PRESS

NEPA Compliance Checklist (FWS Federal Financial Assistance Actions)

PRESS

Checklist for Refuges NEPA Compliance

PRESS

Checklist for Social Impacts

PRESS

Checklist for Section 4(f) Compliance

PRESS

Checklist for Economic Impacts

PRESS

Example of a good EA/EIS Outline

OTHER REFERENCES CITED

The following references are cited for your information, but are not included in full text in the NEPA Reference Handbook. To obtain copies of these Washington Office Environmental Coordinator, at 703-358-2183.

1. CEQ. "Considering Cumulative Effects Under the National Environmental Policy Act," dated January 1997.
2. CEQ. "Memorandum to Heads of Agencies on the Application of the National Environmental Policy Act to Proposed Federal Actions in the United States with Transboundary Effects," dated July 1, 1997.
3. CEQ. "Incorporating Biodiversity Considerations into Environmental Impact Analysis Under the National Environmental Policy Act," dated January 1993.
4. Department of the Interior. Environmental Memoranda (selected)

ESM94-3 Number of Review Copies of Environmental Statements Required by Other Federal and Federal-State Agencies

ESM94-5 Environmental Impacts on Groundwater

ESM94-6 Nationwide Inventory of Potential Wild and Scenic Rivers

ESM94-7 Prime and Unique Agricultural Lands

ESM94-8 Time Periods for Review of a Draft EIS
ESM94-9 Federal and Federal-State Agency NEPA Contacts
ESM94-10 Federal and Federal-State Agencies with Jurisdiction by Law or Special Expertise on Environmental Quality Issues
ESM94-11 Federal and Federal-State Offices for Receiving and Commenting on Other Agencies=Environmental Documents
ESM94-13 U.S. Public Health Service
ESM94-14 Other Environmental Review and Consultation Requirements
ESM94-15 National Environmental Policy Act; Pollution Prevention
ESM94-16 Procedures for Review and Approval of Bureau NEPA Appendices (516 DM 6), Handbooks, Categorical Exclusions, and Other Procedures
ESM95-3 Filing Guidance for Environmental Impact Statements
ESM96-3 Quarterly Report of Environmental Impact Statements
ESM97-2 Application of NEPA to Proposed Federal Actions in the United States with Transboundary Effects
ESM97-3 NEPA Compliance in Emergency Situations
ESM98-3 Procedures for Intra-Departmental Review of National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Documents Prepared by Bureaus and Office
ESM99-2 Designation of Non-Federal Agencies to be Cooperating Agencies in Implementing the Procedural Requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act
ESM00-3 State and Local Agency Review of Environmental Statements
ESM00-4 Publication and Distribution of Department of the Interior National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Documents via Electronic Methods
ESM02-2 Cooperating Agencies in Implementing the Procedural Requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act
ERM94-2 Procedures for Reviewing Project and Environmental Reports Prepared by or for Non-Federal Agencies
ERM94-3 Interim Guidance on Referrals to CEQ of Proposed Federal Actions Found to be Environmentally Unsatisfactory
ERM94-7 Request for Copies of Non-Federal Review Documents
ERM99-2 Interventions in Proceedings of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
ECM94-2 Compliance with Underground Storage Tank Requirements
ECM95-3 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Responsibilities Under the Departmental Environmental Justice

Policy

ECM97-2 Departmental Responsibilities for Indian Trust

Resources and Indian Sacred Sites on Federal Lands

ECM98-2 CEQ Environmental Justice Guidance under the NEPA

- 5. Department of the Interior. Memorandum from Associate Solicitor, Division of General Law to Distribution List, regarding "Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)", dated March 4, 1996.**
- 6. Department of the Interior. Memorandum from Assistant Solicitor to Director, OEPC, regarding "Applicability of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act to the Bowden National Fish Hatchery," dated December 24, 1975.**
- 7. Department of the Interior. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary, Department of Transportation, regarding applicability of Section 4(f) to Department of the Interior Lands and Interests, dated June 25, 1980.**
- 8. Fish and Wildlife Service. Manual, Refuge Planning, 602 FW 1-3.**
- 9. Fish and Wildlife Service. Manual, Federal Aid Manual, 521, 522, and 523 FW.**
- 10. Fish and Wildlife Service. Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook, November 1996.**
- 11. Fish and Wildlife Service. Memorandum from Deputy Director to Regional Directors, Regarding "Guidance Document - Federal Highway Administrations Consideration of Wetlands in the Planning of Federal Aid Highways," dated October 1, 1990.**
- 12. Fish and Wildlife Service. Memorandum from Acting Director to Service Directorate, Regarding "Role of Ecological Services and the Office of Human Resources in Environmental Justice," dated December 17, 1996.**
- 13. Fish and Wildlife Service. Interagency Agreement Between National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Federal Aviation Administration Regarding Low-Level Flying Aircraft Over Natural Resource Areas, dated January 15, 1993.**
- 14. Fish and Wildlife Service. NEPA Handbook, NEPA Policy and Internal Service Compliance, (30 AM 2-3).**
- 15. Fish and Wildlife Service. NEPA Guidance to States Participating in the Federal Aid Program**
- 16. Fish and Wildlife Service. Memorandum from Acting Director to Regional Directors, Regarding "Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and NEPA Compliance," dated November 21, 2002.**
- 17. Fish and Wildlife Service. Agreement Between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for Conducting Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Activities, January 22, 2003.**
- 18. Fish and Wildlife Service. Memorandum of Agreement Between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, January 22,**

2003.

19. Fish and Wildlife Service. Partnership Agreement for Water Resources and Fish and Wildlife. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, January 22, 2003.